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PTO/SB/01 (05-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. GPO 0031-0002

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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration
Submitted
with Initial
Filing

OR

Declaration
Submitted after Initial
Filing (surcharge
(37 CFR 1.18 (c))
required)

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Attorney Docket Number | 7129.01D-2 |
| First Named Inventor | Hugh McGovern |
| COMPLETE IF KNOWN | |
| Application Number | 09 / 923,288 |
| Filing Date | August 6, 2001 |
| Group Art Unit | 3827 |
| Examiner Name | To Be Assigned |

As a before named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) August 6, 2001 as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number 09/923,288 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a), (d) or (e), or 365(e) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 366(e) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application Number(s) | Country | Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | Priority Not Claimed | Certified Copy Attached? YES NO |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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PTO/SB/01 (03-01)

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number
or Bar Code Label **25546** OR Correspondence address below

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

NAME OF BOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Given Name (First and middle [if any]) | Hubert T. | | Family Name or Surname | MCGOVERN |
| Inventor's Signature | Hubert T. McGovern | | Date | 12/17/01 |
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NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

| | | | | |
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Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.